

## LITERATURE.

## REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

—From J. B. Lippincott & Co. we have received "Through Night to Light," by Frederick Spielhagen, translated by Professor Schöle de Vere. Published by Lippincott & Holt. This is a bulky book of 569 pages, in continuation of the "Problematic Characters" of the same author, which was published a few months ago. The story before us commences where the other left off; the same characters are taken up, and the problems of their lives carried on still further towards a solution. "Through Night to Light" can only be properly understood by those who have read its predecessor, and still another book is necessary to make the story complete. A novel of this length will dismay some readers, and yet those who have once been interested in Spielhagen's pages will not be content until they have followed him to the end. As a novelist he is undoubtedly the most original and profound of any of our day, and the subtlety with which he discerns the inmost springs of human action stamps him as a rare and remarkable genius. To the ordinary reader his writings have a strange fascination, while to the student they offer abundant food for speculation and thought. Few novels of the day are better worth perusal than these, and they will certainly be appreciated by lovers of a high class of fiction.

The same house sends us "Susan Fielding," by Miss Annie Edwards, published by Sheldon & Co. This is a work of much merit by a talented writer. During its publication serially in *The Galaxy* it was read with interest, and it will well repay a perusal in its completed shape.

—Porter & Coates send us "Great Mysteries," by John Neal, and "The Primeval World of Hebrew Traditions," by Frederic Henry Hedge. Published by Roberts Brothers.

The first of these works consists of a couple of pleasantly written sketches entitled "Children—What are They Good For?" and "Goody Gracious, and the Forget-me-not," which occupy about one-third of the space, and the rest is filled with "Pickings and Stealings," or all the amusing anecdotes about children that Mr. Neal has collected during his long life, interspersed with appropriate comments. This is a pleasant work to read, as Mr. Neal is evidently an admirer of children, and he writes about them as if in love with his subject.

"The Primeval World of Hebrew Tradition" is a discussion of the narrative of Genesis from a point of view of the author's own establishing. He contends that many of the statements made about the early history of the world and its inhabitants are intended to be allegorical, and that others are merely records of the traditions that were current with the Hebrew in common with other races. Mr. Hedge thinks that a belief in the scriptural truths of the Bible ought not to be made dependent on a strict logical analysis of points that come within the province of science and history. The book is not uninteresting, but we fail to see what benefit it will be to any one, especially as the author is extremely loose in his style of argument, and on nearly every page he speaks of the view, he advances as if they were conclusive and final, whereas he will find plenty of theologians who will pick his book to pieces, and easily prove his arguments to be fallacious.

—From Turner Brothers & Co. we have received "The Comic History of the United States," by John D. Sherwood, published by Fields, Osgood & Co. This is not a very funny book, and yet there are doubtless plenty of persons with the bump of humor imperfectly developed who will find it vastly entertaining. Far be it from us to spoil the enjoyment of any such by proving that the jokes are no jokes, and we commend it to all who are likely to take delight in its pages by stating that it gives a genuine sketch of the history of the United States from a humorous point of view. The facts are all there, so that the schoolmasters will have no cause for complaint, and the fun is thrown in for those who have a weakness that way. The book is illustrated with some clever sketches by Arthur Scratchley, which are quite as amusing as the text.

—From Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger we have received the second series of "Lamps, Pitchers, and Trumpets," and "The Spanish Barber," by the author of "Mary Powell," published by M. W. Dodd. The first mentioned book is a continuation of the lectures on the vocation of the preacher delivered by Rev. Edward Paxton Hood to the students of Spurgeon's Pastors' College, in London. The lectures are five in number, and the subjects discussed are "The Pulpit in our Age and Time," "On Arrangement of Texts by Division," "Concerning Written and Extempore Sermons," "On Effective Preaching and the Foundation of Legitimate Success," and "On the Mental Tools and Apparatus Needed for the Pulpit." To each lecture is appended a "pulpit monograph" of celebrated preachers, in which are discussed the merits of Frederic Robertson, Pusey, Manning, Newman, Spurgeon, the Abbe Lacordaire, and Thomas Binney. This work will be interesting and valuable to clergymen and theological students, as well as to lay readers who have at heart the advancement of the Christian ministry.

"The Spanish Barber" is a story of the Bible in Spain, and it is written with all that air of realism for which Miss Tytler is celebrated.

—Duffield Ashmead sends us "The Illuminated Christmas Year," containing the collects for Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Whitsunday, and Trinity. Each collect is printed on tinted card in illuminated text, and surrounded with symbolic borders, printed in gold and colors, from the designs of Miss Jean Lee. This lady will be remembered as the illuminator of the graceful poems entitled "Nothing but Leaves" and "The Beatitudes," published last year. The designs all possess a good deal of artistic merit, and, bound up in elegant style, they

make one of the handsomest gift books for the holiday season that could be desired.

—"Rena; or, the Snow Bird" is the third volume of the uniform edition of Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz's novels now in course of publication by T. B. Peterson & Brothers. The writings of this lady have plenty of admirers, who will be glad to have them in uniform style on their library shelves.

—"Songs of Gladness" is the title of a collection of hymns for the Sabbath School, prayer-meetings, and church service, arranged by J. E. Gould, J. C. Garrigues & Co. are the sole publishers of this work.

—"Seeing Jesus," "Joseph, the Hebrew Prince of Egypt," and "Golden Songs and Ballads for Children" are the titles of three religious juvenile works received from the Presbyterian Publication Committee.

—"The Sunday Magazine for December," published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., is, as usual, handsomely illustrated, and filled with interesting and instructive religious articles by some of the best English writers.

Good Words for December, published by the same house, presents an attractive array of stories, sketches, poems, and pictures for young readers.

—"The Medical and Surgical Reporter for November 27," published by S. W. Butler, M. D., No. 115 South Seventh street, has a number of excellent papers on medical subjects.

—"Good Health for December" discusses various sanitary questions in an able manner. Published by Alexander Moore, Boston.

—"Hitchcock's New Monthly Magazine for December" has a sketch and portrait of Madame Anna Bishop, and a variety of excellent articles on art, musical, literary, and other subjects. Received from B. W. Hitchcock, No. 814 Chestnut street, who sends us "Bulls and Bears" and "Nellie just over the Way," two numbers of Hitchcock's half-dime series; also the Lord's Prayer, arranged to music.

—Turner Brothers & Co. send us *Appleton's Journal* for December 11.

—"Hove's Musical Monthly," No. 6, contains twelve popular instrumental pieces and ten songs with piano accompaniment. This is an excellent collection of parlor music, and the magazine is certainly cheap at 55 cents a number. Published by Elias Howe, No. 103 Court street, Boston.

—From the Central News Company, No. 505 Chestnut street, we have received the latest numbers of *Punch and Fun*.

## NEW YORKISMS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

**Gone to the East Indies.**  
This is the case with Mr. George H. Butler, formerly dramatic critic of *Wilkes' Spirit of the Times*, and now Consul-General to the East Indies. The question is which, in every sense, is the most lucrative position. Perhaps he makes a little larger salary as Consul, but is not that counterbalanced by the disorderly liver which, sooner or later, is imminent? It is very pleasant to crush the crisp greenback, or elink the glittering specie, but health is better than either, and the American who goes to the East Indies as a resident leaves health behind. Then, again, as Mr. Butler's duties as Consul much more burdensome or honorable than those of a truly good and great dramatic critic? If they are, I am glad that the capacity for higher and more important trusts has been recognized in a journalist who spent some years of his life in advocating the interests of art behind the footlights, and that conscientiousness in consular duties has been argued from conscientiousness in critical ones.

**Music at the Empire Rink.**  
At the Empire City Skating Rink a monster concert is in progress which shames that of Boston, and renders nugatory all the efforts of rivals in the Beethoven centennial. I refer to the few exhibition there, an occasion which has been seized upon for the display of various kinds of small-winged animals; and any quantity of dogs, pigeons, and poodles, bantams and bull-dogs, shagbats and "shocks," black Spaniards and brass bands are mixed up together, and fill the air with their various melodies. Fawns and fishes, ponies and pullets, are visible on either hand, and amid a chorus of coos, crows, quacks, and cackles, a brass band fulminates music and splits the ear like powder blasting a rock. It is worth going to hear, even if Mr. Greeley does not join his language to that of the other curiosities.

**Indian Summer.**  
It is now the 3d of December, and every day for the past month I have heard the question asked, "Ain't this Indian summer?" Is this a delusion peculiar to New York? For my part I believe Indian summer to be a fraud. I have tried hard to imagine that I was surrounded by the dreamy languor and the brilliant air of that supposititious season. It is in vain. We have had no such experience here this year. One or two days have dawned which promised an unusual touch of balm; but the promise was not kept. Indian summer, so far as this locality is concerned, is a dream of the past. Only as lately as yesterday afternoon I saw some one looking about for Indian summer in the midst of that sick snow-storm which began about 3 o'clock. The fact is, we live so fast here that we give the seasons no time to correct their mistakes, and if summer forgets to give us all the golden days that are our due, we give her no chance of rectifying the mistake at the middle or end of autumn.

**The Pavement of the Period.**  
The failure of the experiment on Fifth avenue has awoke the city to a consciousness of the necessity for some new and more suitable pavement. The Commissioners of the Park, to whom belongs the credit of occasionally doing a good thing, have imported one of the small irrigating machines at present in use in Paris along the Boulevards. Hitherto this machine has not proved extremely successful, and the Commissioners have for some time past been engaged in examining into the merits of a certain deliquescent salt said to have been lately brought into use in Europe with great advantage. At any rate no disgusting odors arise from its use, and it has, therefore, been experimented with as possibly holding out hope of some relief to distracted New York. The kind of pavement, too, which the Park Commissioners regard favorably, and which, sooner or later, promises to supplant the pavement of the period, is a hard crystallized mineral substance, of rocky formation, found in abundant quantities at Seyssel, Switzerland. It is made into a sort of plaster, and applied to the pavement with rollers filled with red-hot iron.

**These Women Again.**  
If I were a misogynist, which I am very far from being, I should love them for one thing, namely, for giving me something to talk and think about. What do you think they have been doing now? The Woman's Suffrage Association has met and passed a resolution to the effect that Mrs. McFarland's brutal and murderous attack upon Mr. Richardson was in a great degree attributable to the debasing and slavish condition of woman by the statute and common law of the State of New York, and the pernicious influence of the New York *Tribune* on the divorce question and the civil rights of women. Mrs. Blake and Mrs. Wilcox also declared in general terms against the persistent efforts made to keep the downtrodden and oppressed sex in the condition in which it found itself already. Women will talk, you know, especially when they have the opportunity of being reported in the newspapers.

**The Last of the Baron de Riviere.**  
A collection of antiquities, the property of the Baron de Riviere, has just been disposed of at auction. Though not equal to the auction sale of the late Marquis of Hastings' effects, it numbered some curiosities worth possessing. There were Peruvian, Russian, Indian, Japanese, and Chinese trinkets; Venetian and Spanish rapers, and Bohemian glassware. There were bronze, black marble, and porphyry clocks; Sevres china service, decorated in garnet and gold. There were miniatures, bas-reliefs, statues, court costumes, parasols, bedsteads, jewels, pipes, cups, and every variety of silver filigree ornament. The Baron de Riviere has been a most industrious traveller, and picked up curiosities wherever he has sojourned. The sale was very largely attended, partly owing to the notoriety which the Baron had obtained, and partly to the intrinsic value of the collection.

**Lefranc the Tenor.**  
The new tenor Lefranc, at the Academy of Music, is overshadowing all the other performers. Not De Bril, not even Kollogg, is much listened to or cared for while he is on the stage, and at the conclusion of any particularly fine passage the exclamation "Bravo! bravo!" rises simultaneously from all parts of the house, and culminates in an ovation. Some judges of vocal music, who have heard the best that the world has to afford in the way of tenors, pronounce him the best that has ever visited these shores. He is scarcely young enough to have a romance connected with his name; the romance is being reserved for Mr. Fechter, who, with his flaxen wigs and his new readings, is expected to create an emotion early next month.

ALI BABA.

**The Way to Hunt Buffalo.**  
We commend the following amusing mode of hunting buffalo to all ambitious young amateurs who feel like going out West to enjoy the sport:—

There is a disease prevalent among the people who inhabit the Eastern portion of this country, which annually carries off a large number of most respectable citizens. Among the first symptoms is a desire to consult late maps of the great West, particularly those which exhibit the Great American Desert, divided from Missouri by the river of the same name. Then the afflicted person is seized with an irresistible desire to buy firearms, and unless he is carefully watched by experienced friends, will, in a remarkably short time, become possessed of from one to three *revolvers*, which, after a little further progress of the malady, he will suddenly disappear.

The next thing seen of the invalid, he will suddenly burst upon the astonished view of the quiet citizens of Leavenworth, with a carload of accoutrements, and himself standing at a pair of top boots that terminate only at the arm pits. I am not aware that any name has yet been given to this disease in the East, but here we call it "buffalo hunting." I presume that nearly every man east of the Mississippi River has been more or less afflicted with it, but it has not heretofore proven as fatal on the west as on the east side of the Alleghenies. The reason for this is probably found in the fact that the noble warriors and peerless maidens of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes are not fully appreciated by Western men, who, when they are captured by the Indians, stubbornly insist on designating the manner in which they shall be cooked, whether broiled, baked, or made into soup, while the Yankees appear correspondingly indifferent about these little minor details, so they are permitted to kill a buffalo first.

I have long thought it to be the duty of somebody on this way to furnish a few instructions to these hunters from the Atlantic slope, in order that they may not seek relief in vain for their disease. Old plainsmen may object to this on the ground that Eastern buffalo hunters have already killed a large proportion of the bison, and that this wholesale slaughter should be stopped instead of encouraged, but when a man feels that it is his duty to do a certain thing, let nothing deter him. Therefore I shall drop a few hints which will be found valuable:—

1. Be sure to buy firearms before leaving New York. Nearly everybody neglects this. Small pistols, the latest patterns of rifles that will load themselves, and double-barrelled shot-guns with patent cartridges, that are warranted to kill every time, should be secured at once. The pistols are convenient at short range to stick into the unfortunate bison's ear after you have dropped him with your double B shot. Large shot tear the game and render it useless. Buffalo are very tender. Anybody can kill a buffalo. Shot-guns are also better than rifles, because it is sometimes necessary to shoot the game while it is moving; and then, by firing on a herd you are apt to kill eight or nine, by letting off both barrels at once, if your gun scatters. Lord Napier, who headed a hunting party a few years ago, killed seventeen at one shot, with his English fowling-piece, and would have wounded another if his horse had not stepped into the chimney of a prairie dog's house. The Indians like shot-guns best, and if you are captured the presentation of one may secure you the privilege of choosing your route to the spirit-land. The scenery is very fine on some of these routes. They are "studded with stars unutterably bright," which is quite an item.

2. It is seldom that any bison are seen before reaching the Missouri river, and travellers are not permitted to carry their guns in the sleeping cars. The usual practice of loading up while crossing the ferry on the Mississippi is not necessary, as there are not Indians and buffalo in Missouri in sufficient numbers to attack express trains.

3. Everybody has heard of the Missouri Valley. Well, there are no buffalo there. No county containing over 50,000 inhabitants is permitted by the Legislature to have herds of bison within its borders, as they would interfere with hotel-runners and omnibuses. So hunters need not get excited as soon as they step on Kansas soil, as the game is still several miles distant.

4. You had better put all your pistols on fire, however, and strap your guns over your shoulders in the form of an X. Don't fail to

have a large knife with a horn handle stuck in your boot leg, and another down your collar. A Derringer pistol in each breeches pocket, although they can't be seen, will do no harm. When you have all the arms on you can carry, give the rest to Friday, and go to the hotel.

5. You now have only about four hundred miles to go for your game, and as you have your arms already loaded, there is nothing to do but to get your ticket. Be sure and do a great deal of talking all this time, and advertise for sealed proposals for shipping your game East. Then get shaved and push out for Hays City with your arms all on. Nobody wears arms out that way, and your appearance will be a cheerful novelty. This is the point nearest your game where you can procure a brass band, which is necessary, not only in hunting buffalo, but in capturing antelope.

"Ring the bell for Sarah," played on the bugle, is the only thing that will attract antelope within gunshot. It will also frighten away wolves at night, and soothe the savage breast. Also be sure and take along enough wagons to bring your game to the railroad. A great many hunters come home empty-handed because they neglect to provide transportation.

It is not necessary to say anything about Indians. It is enough for you to know that they "see God in clouds and hear Him in the wind," and that the Government will protect you. The low price of gold alone deters the Arapahoes and Cheyennes from interfering. They might do it with gold at 280, but not at 128. Never.

"Not for Joseph."

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